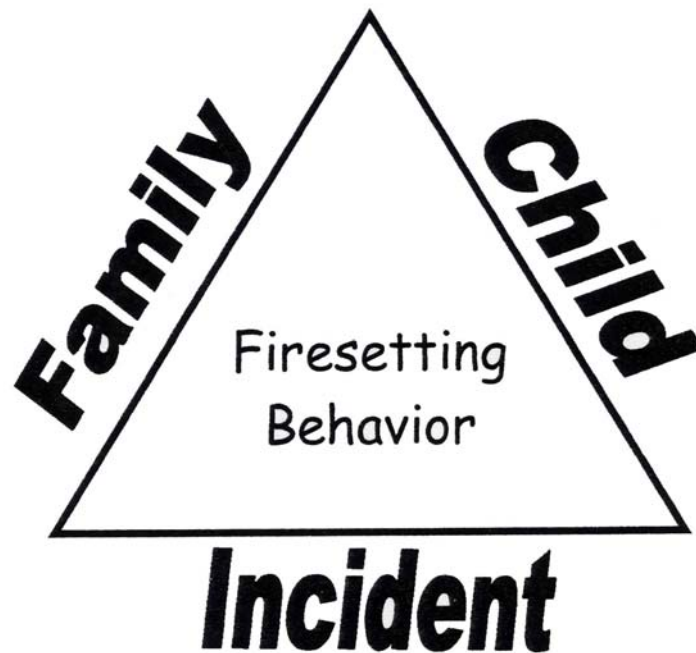


# Child Firesetter and Juvenile Arson Prevention Program

## Child and Caregiver Interview Forms

### The Firesetting Intervention Triangle



An effective intervention program will consider three perspectives, which influence the firesetting behavior. These include:

- Family Circumstances
- Child Circumstances
- Fire Incident

Each perspective should be consistent with the others. What the parent tells the interventionist should be similar to what the child tells the interventionist. Both of those viewpoints should be supported by the objective information about the incident (e.g. fire reports when available).

When these perspectives do not mesh, the interventionist should carefully review each aspect and consider a more in-depth exploration of the case.

**Instructions:** Have caregiver fill out the “Parent interview form” Interview youth and mark responses on form. Total the responses marked with a “⊗” from both the “Child Interview Form” and the “Parent Interview Form”. Each question counts as one even if more than one “⊗” is marked per question.

## CHILD INTERVIEW FORM

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where do you go to school? What do you like about it?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. ☒ After school, who watches you? (☒ Negative response)

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What do you like to do with your friends?

\_\_\_\_\_

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### FIRE HISTORY QUESTIONS

4. ☒ Have you ever talked to any fire department people about setting fires or playing with M/L?

☒ Yes

☐ No

When?

5. What did you use to start this fire?

☐ Matches

☐ Lighter

☐ Both

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. ☒ Where did you get these lighters/matches?

☐ Home

☐ School

☐ Store

☐ Friend

☐ Other

☐ Found it

☒ Went out of way to acquire

7. ☒ What did you set on fire?

☐ Nothing

☐ Paper product

☐ Grass/leaves

☐ Trash

☒ Flammable liquids

☒ Someone else's property

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. ☒ What did you do after you used the matches/lighters or the fire started?

☒ Denied/lie about involvement

☒ Hid

☒ Did nothing

☐ Extinguished the fire

☐ Sought help

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

9. How many others were involved in this incident?

☐ None

Who were they?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name/Relationship

\_\_\_\_\_

Name/Relationship

10. ☒ Tell me the reason you decided to light the fire or play with the matches/lighters.

☒ Another child told me to

☒ To see it burn

☐ To see what would happen

☒ To destroy something

☒ To hurt someone

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11. ☒ How did you feel when you started this fire or played with the M/L?

☒ Happy      ☐ Sad      ☒ Excited      ☐ Scared      ☐ Nervous  
☐ Normal      ☒ Angry      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. ☒ Has anything happened lately that really bothers you?

☐ Nothing      ☒ Being angry at a brother/sister      ☒ Parents split up  
☒ Death      ☒ Moved      ☒ Argument with parent  
☒ Family fight      ☒ Problem at school      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. ☒ How many fires have you set or how many times have you played with matches/lighters?

☐ None      ☐ One      ☐ Two      ☒ Three or more

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

14. ☒ What have you set on fire in the past?

☐ Nothing      ☐ Paper      ☐ Grass      ☒ Flammable liquids  
☐ Trash      ☒ Others belongings      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Have you ever been with your friends when they have set fires?

☐ Yes      ☐ No

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

16. What are two things that could happen when children play with fire?

A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. \_\_\_\_\_

17. ☒ Do you have any M/L hidden anywhere or know where some are?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      Where: \_\_\_\_\_

18. ☒ Do you think that you will continue to light more fires?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      How come: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Is there anything else about fires that you want to tell me?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## SOCIAL HISTORY QUESTIONS

20. ☒ How do you get along with parents, caregivers, and/or siblings? (☒ for negative response)

*(The following sample questions are to help generate dialogue.)*

Do you spend as much time with them (parent/caregiver) as you would like?

How do you feel about this? \_\_\_\_\_

What are things that you and your family do together?

\_\_\_\_\_

Tell me about them,(parent/caregiver/siblings) what are they like?

21. ☒ How often do you fight, argue or disagree with your parent(s)?

☐ Never      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Sometimes      ☒ Often      ☒ All the time

What is it usually about? \_\_\_\_\_

22. ☒ How are you punished when you have done something wrong?

☐ Don't get punished      ☐ Time-out      ☐ Ground or take away privileges  
☐ Yell      ☐ Spank      ☒ Hit/Beat      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

23. ☒ When you get punished do you think the punishment is fair?

☒ Never      ☒ Rarely      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Mostly      ☐ Always

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

24. ☒ Does anyone else in your family argue a lot?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Sometimes

Who and what about: \_\_\_\_\_

25. ☒ Is there anything else that you want to tell me about you? (for negative response)

*(These are some sample questions that may be used to generate dialogue regarding abuse issues.)*

Has anyone done mean things to you that hurt you?      ☒ Yes      ☐ No

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Is/has there anyone that touches you in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable?

☒ Yes      ☐ No

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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**For Official Use Only**

## Interviewer's Observations (compared to other interviews)

During your interview it is important to recognize some important signs the child may be giving to you. Your observations relating to behavior, mannerisms, mood and way of thinking are important to note. If a referral is necessary, counselors or therapists may get some insights based on your notes and observations.

Child's behavior: \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g. fidgety, nervous, stubborn, eye contact, shy, open, hyper, polite)

Child's mood: \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g. angry, sad, defiant, happy, depressed, excited, afraid)

Child's way of thinking: \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g. rational, age appropriate, scattered, illogical)

<b>Overall</b>	<b><i>Within Normal Limits?</i></b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Child's behavior: .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child's mood: .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child's cognitive process: .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you visited the home, what was the appearance? _____ (e.g. orderly, messy, unsafe)			
Do the caregivers appear indifferent towards the child? .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the caregivers appear hostile towards the child? .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the child appear neglected/abused? .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does <input type="checkbox"/> mother, <input type="checkbox"/> father, or <input type="checkbox"/> caregiver appear to be developmentally disabled? .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does <input type="checkbox"/> mother, <input type="checkbox"/> father, <input type="checkbox"/> caregiver a show signs of substance abuse? .....		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total ⊗ Score = _____ (parent+child forms) { <i>Scores above eleven (11) could indicate a child who needs additional intervention</i> }			

Additional Comments:

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## PARENT INTERVIEW FORM

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### CAREGIVER INFORMATION

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Female caregiver name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_

Male caregiver name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ (Male/Female) Work \_\_\_\_\_ (Male/Female)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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### FAMILY INFORMATION

1. Biological parent's present marital status:

☐ Never married ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated

2. Who is the custodial parent and/or primary caregiver?

☐ Mother ☐ Father ☐ Both ☐ Other

3. Has/is your child been in counseling?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, when and with whom \_\_\_\_\_

4. Does anyone in your home smoke?

☐ Yes ☐ No How many? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Has your family ever experienced a serious fire or burn injury?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Where are matches/lighters generally kept in your home?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. How did your child get the materials used in this incident?

☐ Found it easily ☐ Went out of the way to acquire

8. Do you believe this fireplay/firesetting was intentional?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_

9. Do you believe your child was attempting to do harm or destroy property?

☐ Yes ☐ No

10. Has your child expressed an interest/fascination in fire?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you believe your child was pressured or coerced into fireplay/firesetting by peers?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_

12. Within the last 6 months has there been an event in your child's life that could have contributed to this behavior? ☐ Yes ☐ No *If yes, check those that apply:*

☐ Family problems ☐ Parent/child conflict ☐ Family moved  
☐ Death ☐ Problem at school ☐ Angry at self or another  
☐ Trauma ☐ Other

13. What was your child's behavior after this fireplay/firesetting incident?

☐ Denied or lied about involvement ☐ Hid ☐ Did nothing  
☐ Extinguished the fire ☐ Sought help ☐ Other

14. Does the fireplay/firesetting appear to be an attempt to get attention by your child?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure

15. Please check any of the behaviors that apply or are demonstrated by this child:

☐ Jealousy ☐ Stealing ☐ Bedwetting ☐ Destructive ☐ Compulsive behaviors  
☐ Moody ☐ Nightmares ☐ Impulse ☐ Cruel to animals

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Please check if any of the following apply to this child:

☐ Physical abuse ☐ Sexual abuse ☐ Emotional abuse ☐ Neglected abuse  
☐ Other/explain: \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENT INTERVIEW KEY

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3. ☒ Has/is your child been in counseling?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, when and with whom\_\_\_\_\_

4. ☒ Does anyone in your home smoke?

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5. ☒ Has your family ever experienced a serious fire or burn injury?

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☒ Death ☒ Problem at school ☒ Angry at self or another

☒ Trauma Other (☒ if negative response)\_\_\_\_\_



13. ☒ What was your child's behavior after this fireplay/firesetting incident?

- ☒ Denied or lied about involvement      ☒ Hid      ☒ Did nothing  
☐ Extinguished the fire      ☐ Sought help      ☐ Other

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☒ Moody      ☒ Nightmares      ☒ Impulse      ☒ Cruel to animals

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

16. ☒ Please check if any of the following apply to this child:

- ☒ Physical abuse   ☒ Sexual abuse   ☒ Emotional abuse      ☒ Neglected abuse  
☐ Other/explain: \_\_\_\_\_